



NATIONAL SPACE DESIGN COMPETITION

StellarXplorers Sample Scenario Contest

Help us prepare for StellarXplorers X for your chance to win \$100 Amazon gift card!

Create a simple, entry-level scenario covering one of the phases of the competition: Orbit Planning, Satellite Design, or Launch Operations. The best scenarios will be added to the library of training materials to help teams prepare for StellarXplorers X.



Teams, individual competitors, alumni, mentors, and team directors are all welcome to submit a scenario.

Entries due by **July 31, 2023**, and winners to be announced after **August 10, 2023**. [Click here for complete details](#).

Registration Open for StellarXplorers X



**CLICK HERE TO
REGISTER A TEAM**

*The registration form should be
completed by the team director
only.*

Registration for the 2023-2024 competition season is open now through October 17. Don't wait, register your team today!

Team directors are not required to have prior experience with the competition, nor do Team Directors need to have

experience with Systems Tool Kit (STK) or orbital mechanics to serve in the role. The Competition focuses on the problem-solving side of space system design and less on advanced physics or equations.

[Click here](#) for information about the upcoming season, including dates, deadlines, and registration fees.

Condolences to Lakewood Ranch High School StellarXplorers Competitors & Alumni

Lakewood Ranch High School physics teacher, and long-time StellarXplorers Team Director, Dan Goodman passed away unexpectedly on May 14. Goodman, who worked for NASA for 21 years before working with the military on missile defense projects and then as a consultant as a non-particle physicist, had a passion for passing on his knowledge to younger generations. This passion led him to obtaining his teaching certificate

in his late 60s and spending the last twelve years educating students, incorporating his life and professional experiences into his lessons to bring a sense of reality to physics. [Click here to read more.](#)

Stay in the Know!



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Tweet us, like us, follow us, and share with StellarXplorers on your favorite platform!

We'd love to share any stories about your team. Send them our way: competition@stellarxplorers.org.

STELLARCAMPS

Registration to host a 2023 StellarCamp is still open!

Looking for STEM programs to offer students during the summer? Look no further!

Organizations interested in hosting a space-focused summer camp still have time to [register to host a StellarCamp](#). The full camp curriculum (20-hours / five 4-hour days) is available for a purchase price of \$300 per week. The host can choose to conduct the camp in-person or virtually during any of the 12 weeks below. You must register for the week at least two weeks prior to the start date.



June 5—9	July 3—7*	July 31—Aug. 4
June 12—16	July 10—14	Aug. 7—11
June 19—23*	July 17—21	Aug. 14—18
June 26—30	July 24—28	Aug. 21—25

* Holiday falls during camp week

The camp material has been refreshed from last year. If you have questions about hosting, please contact info@stellarxplorers.org.

SPONSOR NEWS

ULA test-fires new Vulcan Centaur rocket on the launch pad for 1st time



United Launch Alliance fires up the first-stage engines of its Vulcan Centaur rocket on the launch pad for the first time on June 7, 2023. (Image credit: United Launch Alliance)

United Launch Alliance (ULA)'s next-generation Vulcan Centaur rocket just took a big step toward its debut launch.

The Vulcan Centaur aced a crucial engine test tonight (June 7), firing up its two first-stage engines on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida for the first time ever.

[Click to read more about this crucial test for ULA.](#)

STEM RESOURCES

Join the StellarXplorers Alumni Network

The StellarXplorers Alumni Network is intended to connect program alumni with each other and with program sponsors and supporters from industry and academia. Within this group we'll share networking opportunities, available internships, job postings, and more!

This is a private group for past and present StellarXplorers participants. You must be at least 16 years of age to join, per LinkedIn account regulations. All requests to join will be reviewed by StellarXplorers staff to verify participation in the program.

To join, visit: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12721859/>



SPACE NEWS

Curious About What's Happening Overhead?



Check out the Space.com [2023 Space Calendar](#) to stay up to date with upcoming planned rocket launches and skywatching-worthy dates.

And in case you missed it...

- 1 JUN 2023 | [Mars helicopter Ingenuity went silent for 6 'agonizing' days in April](#)
- 2 JUN 2023 | [World's 1st 'hacking sandbox' satellite and more to ride on SpaceX's next NASA cargo launch](#)
- 3 JUN 2023 | [SpaceX launches Dragon cargo capsule to space station, lands rocket at sea \(video\)](#)
- 5 JUN 2023 | [NASA's new moon car for Artemis astronauts will be inspired by Mars rovers](#)
- 6 JUN 2023 | [1st-ever private Venus mission delayed until at least 2025](#)
- 8 JUN 2023 | [Long space missions take a toll on astronaut brains, study finds](#)
- 9 JUN 2023 | [Nanoblock reveals new space model kits created with astronaut's advice](#)
- 10 JUN 2023 | [A chaotic star is inching toward a violent death as astronomers watch in real-time](#)
- 11 JUN 2023 | [New Pentagon-funded hypersonic test vehicle could fly in summer 2024](#)
- 12 JUN 2023 | [Space Force chooses SpaceX, ULA for 12 military launches in 2025](#)
- 13 JUN 2023 | [Japan's Astroscale has a new robot tug to clean up space junk. Here's how it works \(video\)](#)
- 17 JUN 2023 | [Where did Earth get its water? It was sucked up from space, new theory says](#)
- 18 JUN 2023 | [US Space Force wants private companies to help it counter 'emerging threats' in space](#)
- 20 JUN 2023 | [Delta IV Heavy rocket launches US spy satellite on penultimate mission \(video\)](#)
- 24 JUN 2023 | [New monument will honor Florida's role in space exploration](#)
- 25 JUN 2023 | [NASA just recycled 98% of all astronaut pee and sweat on the ISS \(engineers are thrilled\)](#)

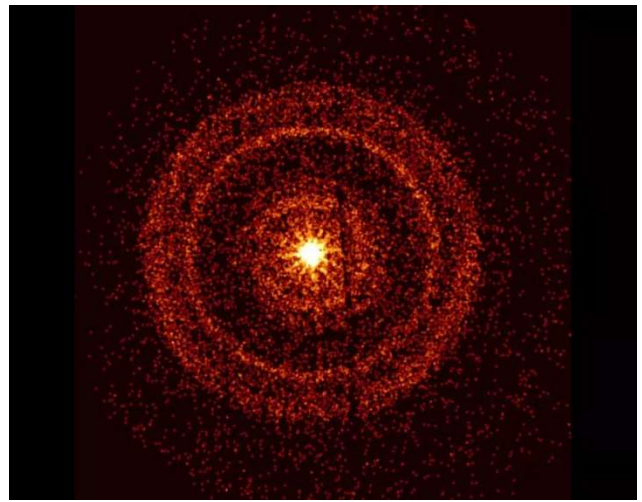
29 JUN 2023 | [Gravitational wave background of the universe heard for the 1st time](#)

29 JUN 2023 | [Virgin Galactic aces its 1st commercial launch to space \(video\)](#)

Images from space:



This Hubble Space Telescope photo highlights the jellyfish galaxy JO206 which features a colorful star-forming disk surrounded by a luminous cloud of dust. ([Image credit](#): ESA/Hubble & NASA, M. Gullieuszik and the GASP team)



The brightest gamma ray burst ever seen is forcing astronomers to rethink their theories. ([Image credit](#): NASA/Swift/A. Beardmore (University of Leicester))

JUST FOR FUN

'Mars rover' is the new 'moonshot' in Fall Out Boy's update to Billy Joel's 'We Didn't Start the Fire'



Fall Out Boy has released an updated version of Billy Joel's "We Didn't Start the Fire," ticking off key moments in world history from 1989 to 2023.

Like the original, the new cover includes mention of space exploration.

"So much has happened in the span of the last 34 years — we felt like a little system update might be fun. Hope you like our take on it," the rock band posted to Twitter on Wednesday (June 28). [Click to read more.](#)

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